

1744

APR 01 2003

PTO/SB/21 (03-03)

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FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number 09/873,842

Filing Date 6/4/2001

First Named Inventor Richard A. Cronenber

Art Unit 1744

Examiner Name

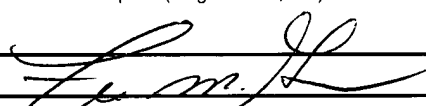
Attorney Docket Number 56154112-6

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

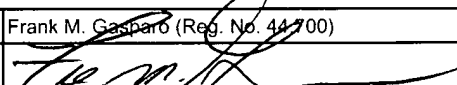
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal C communication (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | Remarks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

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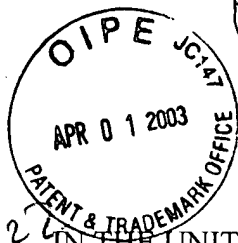
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| Firm or Individual | Frank M. Gasparo (Reg. No. 44,700) |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

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56154112-6

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
APR 4 2003
TC 1700

Applicants: Richard A. Cronenberg et al.
Application No.: 09/873,842
U.S. Filing Date: June 4, 2001
Title: AUTOMATIC PIPETTE IDENTIFICATION AND DETIPPING
Group Art Unit: 1744
Examiner: TBA

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, attorneys for the Applicants hereby bring the following reference to the examination of the above-identified application, which is listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. PTO/SB08A to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. A copy of the cited reference is enclosed.

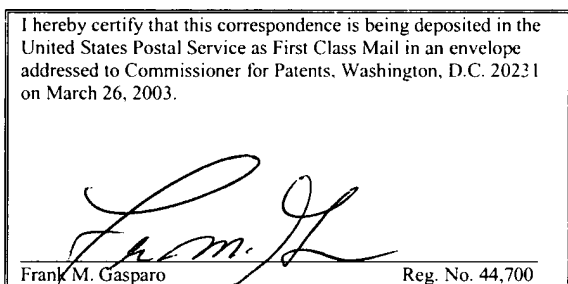
No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the

knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

No fee is deemed necessary with the filing of these documents. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) or credit any overpayments that may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 02-0393 of Baker & McKenzie.

Dated: March 26, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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